

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is response to Applicant's AMENDMENT filed on 05/04/2009.
2. Claims 27-29, 36-37 and 39 have been cancelled.
3. Claims 1-26, 30-35, 38 and 40 are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Dan C. Hu (Reg. No. 40,025) on 07/09/2009 (713) 468-8880 X304 @01:38 PM.

The application has been amended as follows:

SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph beginning on page 15, line 5, with the following amended paragraph:

Process 260 maintains in cache memory 264 a table 259 that correlates the tokens that it have has been granted by process 252 with the data files with which they are associated. When process 260 receives message 302, process 260 updates this table 259 to reflect that process 260 has been granted the tokens A, B, C identified in message 302, and that tokens A, B, C are associated with file 250. Process 260 then determines whether it has yet to be granted any of the tokens (i.e., A, B, or C) that it

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requires to be able to carry out its desired file characteristic modification, based upon the information contained in the table 259. If after receipt by process 260 of message 302, as is the case in the present example, no additional tokens need to be granted for process 260 to be able to carry out its desired file characteristic modification, process 260 then undertakes such modification without the process 260 receiving a copy of the data file. Conversely, if any such required token has yet to be granted, process 260 waits to make such modification until it has been granted all such required tokens.

Allowable Subject Matter

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The present application has been thoroughly reviewed. Upon searching a variety of databases, the examiner respectfully submits that claims 1-26, 30-35, 38 and 40 are allowed in light of the applicants' argument and in light of the prior arts of made record that combination of Harter, Jr. et al. (US Patent No.: US 6,385,658 B2) and Strickland et al. (US Patent No.: US 5,355,477) fail to teach modifying the at least one characteristic of the file without receiving a copy of the file.

6. The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

7. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANH LY whose telephone number is (571) 272-4039 or via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV (Written Authorization being given by Applicant (MPEP 502.03 [R-2])) or fax to (571) 273-4039 (unofficial fax number directly to Examiner's office). The examiner can normally be reached on TUESDAY – THURSDAY from 8:30 AM – 3:30 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene (571) 272-4107.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). Any response to this action should be mailed

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to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, or faxed to:

Central Fax Center: (571) 273-8300.

Anh Ly /AL/
Examiner GAU: 2162
JUL. 10th, 2009

/Jean B. Fleurantin/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162